

IN THE CLAIMS

1-22 (canceled)

23. (previously amended) A method, comprising:

reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase, said reducing further comprising discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said call is point-to-multipoint call.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 further comprising expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being added to said call.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 further comprising expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 32 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 32 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

36. – 39. (canceled)

40. (previously presented) A method, comprising:  
reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase;  
and,  
expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said call is point-to-multi-point call.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 46 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 46 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party having been added to said call.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

53. (presently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a) a switch device; and,

b) a switched virtual circuit (SVC) controller that manages memory space where call records are stored for calls that flow through said switch device, said switched virtual circuit (SVC) controller configured to reduce the size of a call record maintained for a call that flows through said switch device, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase and wherein said controller is further configured to expand the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

54. (canceled)

55. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 53 wherein said controller further comprises a message processing system that receives a messages from said switch, said transitioning capable of being interpreted from said message.

56. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 53 wherein said call further comprises a call over an ATM network.

57. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 53 further comprising a standby controller that assumes operation of said controller if said controller fails.

58. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 53 wherein said apparatus is operating within a working network.

59. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for reducing the size of a call record maintained for a point-to-multipoint call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase;

~~means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being added to said call; and,~~

means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.; and

means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being added to said call.

Claims 60 – 63 (canceled)

64. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 59 further comprising means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a second party from said call.

65. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 64 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said second party being dropped from said call.

66. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

67. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 59 further comprising means for expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

68. (previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:

means for reducing the size of a call record maintained for a point-to-multipoint call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase; and,

means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

69. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 68 further comprising means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a second party to said call.

70. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 69 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said second party being added to said call.

71. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 68 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

72. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 68 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

73. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 68 further comprising means for expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

74. (previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:

means for reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase; and

means for expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

75. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said means for reducing further comprises means for discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

76. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said means for reducing further comprises means for discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

77. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said means for reducing further comprises means for discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

78. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

79. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said call is a point-to-multi-point call.

80. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 79 further comprising means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

81. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 80 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

82. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 80 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party having been added to said call.

83. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 79 further comprising means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

84. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 83 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

85. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 83 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

86. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

87. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a) a switch; and,

b) a readable medium having stored thereon executable instructions and a memory and processor, said executable instructions and memory and processor for maintaining a call record for a call that flows through said switch, said maintaining a call record further comprising reducing the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase, said maintaining a call record also comprising expanding the size of said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call when said call is a point-to-multipoint call, said maintaining a call record also comprising expanding the size of said

call record during said active phase to include information used to drop said party from said call.

88. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein said maintaining further comprises expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

89. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 87 further comprising a message processing system of which said processor is a part, said message processing system coupled to said switch through a bi-directional interface to transport a message from said switch to said message processing system, said a call transitioning capable of being interpreted from said message.

90. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein said call further comprises a call over an ATM network.

91. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein said call record comprises a call ID before and after said reducing.

92. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein said call record further comprises quality of service parameters before and after said reducing.

93. (canceled)

94. (canceled)

95. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 9487 wherein said maintaining further comprises reducing the size of said call record during said active phase as a consequence of said party being dropped from said call.

96. (previously amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer readable medium having instructions which when executed by a computing system, perform a method, said method comprising:

reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase, said reducing comprising discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

97. (canceled).

98. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 96 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

99. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 96 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

100. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 96 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

101. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 96 wherein said call is point-to-multi-point call.

102. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 101 wherein said method further comprises expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

103. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 102 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

104. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 102 wherein said method further comprises reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being added to said call.

105. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 101 wherein said method further comprises expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

106. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 105 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

107. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 105 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

108. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 105 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

109. - 112. (canceled)

113. (previously presented) An article of manufacture comprising a computer readable medium having instructions which when executed by a computing system perform a method, said method comprising:

reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase; and,

expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

114. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

115. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

116. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

117. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

118. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said call is point-to-multi-point call.

119. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 118 wherein said method further comprises expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

120. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 119 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

121. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 119 wherein said method further comprises reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party having been added to said call.

122. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 118 wherein said method further comprises expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

123. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 122 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

124. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 122 wherein said method further comprises reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

125. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.